

# NASA News

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



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## **March Events at the NASA Visitor Center**

### **Saturday, March 16: STAR PARTY!**

3 p.m. -- "Night Sky": This program, targeted towards children in kindergarten through third grade, introduces objects visible in the night sky - the Moon, stars, planets, and comets. Children participate in a hands-on activity and create their own glow-in-the-dark constellation. Parents are encouraged to attend this 40-minute program. No reservations are necessary and all materials are provided by the NASA Visitor Center.

6 p.m. - 7 p.m. -- "Astronomy & the Hubble Space Telescope": In this program for students in and beyond the fourth grade and adults, visitors learn about stars, galaxies, black holes, and other fascinating objects in the Universe. Activities include deciphering a coded message from space and classifying galaxies by their shapes.

7 p.m. - 10 p.m. -- "Evening Sky": An event for the entire family, watch the stars become visible as the Sun disappears below the horizon. Find the circumpolar constellations and get a closer view of stars and planets through our telescope. If you have your own telescope, bring it along! This event will be cancelled if it is raining or overcast skies.

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**Saturday, March 23: Sun - Earth Day celebration**

The Visitor Center will arrange two programs for children to celebrate Sun-Earth Day.

11 a.m. -- "Sun, Earth and Seasons", kindergarten through - 3rd grade.

The presentation gives an introduction to the relationship between the Earth and the Sun, specifically the day-night cycle and seasons. Children participate in an activity using a solar cooker (weather permitting). Program length: approximately 1 hr.

1 p.m. -- "Sun, Earth and Seasons", 4th - 6th grade

Seasons, equinoxes, solstices, and the interrelationships between the Earth and Sun are discussed. A brief introduction to sunspots, solar wind, and the aurora are included. Participants make sundials to be able to tell solar time. Program length: approximately 1.5 hrs.

Special teacher packets available while supplies last on March 16 and March 23.

**Saturday and Sunday: "Puppets in Space"**

"Puppets in Space", a 10-minute puppet show, will be presented at 11 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Puppet astronauts and Sam the monkey will explore space flight, including the space suit. An eight-minute version of the film "Astrosmiles" follows the puppet show.

**Daily: "Space Ace"**

Children ages 5-10 years can earn a "Space Ace" certificate and a lithograph during their Visitor Center experience by completing an activity sheet.

**Sundays: "Humans in Space"**

"Humans in Space" is the subject of a 1 p.m. program for children of all ages. The 30-minute program looks at living and working in space, including a review of the astronauts' culinary delights and their wardrobe.

Special programs are available for education groups with advanced notification.

The Visitor Center, part of the Robert L. Krieger Education Complex, is open Thursday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is located on Route 175 about six miles from Route 13 and five miles from Chincoteague, Va. Admission to Visitor Center programs is free. For further information, please call (757) 824-2298.

Visit our website at <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/vc>

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